

MEDIA RELEASE

**Attention: News Director
For Immediate Release
September 27, 2006**



**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
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Western District of Kentucky**

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**TWO HENDERSON ILLEGAL ALIENS PLEAD GUILTY AND ARE SENTENCED
FOR BRINGING A MINOR ALIEN INTO UNITED STATES**

David L. Huber, United States Attorney for the Western District of Kentucky, announced today that on September 26, 2006, **JUAN MANUEL ESPINOSA-GONZALEZ**, age 28, and **MARIA DOLORES HERNANDEZ-ESPINOSA**, age 28, both of 1629 South Main Street, Henderson, Kentucky, **pled guilty** to conspiring to bring an alien into the United States.

Espinosa-Gonzalez and **Hernandez-Espinosa** pled guilty earlier to an Information filed by the United States Attorney for the Western District of Kentucky. Each admitted today that between January 2006, and May 2006, they conspired to smuggle M.C. (a minor illegal alien) into the United States. Specifically, **Espinosa-Gonzalez** and **Hernandez-Espinosa** admitted that in or about January 2006, **Espinosa-Gonzalez** and **Hernandez-Espinosa** agreed and planned to smuggle M.C. and her mother, knowing they were both aliens of Mexican nationality, into the United States from Mexico. On or about April 2006, **Espinosa-Gonzalez** and **Hernandez-Espinosa** learned that only M.C. had made it across the border and money was needed to pay the smuggler. **Espinosa-Gonzalez** said that **Hernandez-Espinosa** then wired \$2400.00 via Western-Union to M.C.'s uncle, who delivered the money to the smuggler and picked up M.C. **Hernandez-Espinosa** contributed

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\$900.00 dollars for the smuggling fee, and **Espinosa-Gonzalez** paid the remaining amount. Approximately 15 days later, **Hernandez-Espinosa** traveled to Denver, Colorado, where she took custody of M.C. and returned to Henderson, Kentucky.

The plea was entered before Chief Judge John G. Heyburn II, United States District Court, Louisville, Kentucky. Judge Heyburn then sentenced **Espinosa-Gonzalez** and **Hernandez-Espinosa** to time served, noting that each would be turned over to Immigration and Customs Enforcement for deportation.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Madison T. Sewell and was investigated by the Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and the Henderson Police Department.

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